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## Connect the Katy Trail to Kansas City

### Issue

The Katy Trail ends at Clinton, about 65 miles from the Kansas City area. Since the trail was extended to Clinton in the early 1990s, trail advocates and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources have sought a way to connect the trail to the Kansas City metropolitan area.

The vision is to "Complete the Katy Trail" by connecting it from state line to state line--allowing users to ride or walk the trail from Liberty Memorial in Kansas City to the St. Louis Arch.

The most promising trail connection is the Rock Island Railroad corridor, owned by AmerenUE. The railroad corridor has been inactive since the early 1980s.

### Background

Recently a flood caused by failure of a dam owned by Ameren devastated Johnson's Shut-ins State Park. As compensation for the devastation and to show Ameren's corporate good will, Missouri Governor Blunt has asked Ameren to allow the state use of the Rock Island rail corridor to "Complete the Katy Trail". Attorney General Jay Nixon has also expressed his support for including trail use of the Rock Island corridor as part of the Taum Sauk settlement.

Citizens have sent approximately 5000 mail, email, and phone messages to the Department of Natural Resources, the Attorney General's office, and AmerenUE in support of the Katy Trail connection.

We believe that it is possible for AmerenUE to grant a trail easement on the Rock Island corridor while still protecting its valid economic interests in the corridor.

### Status

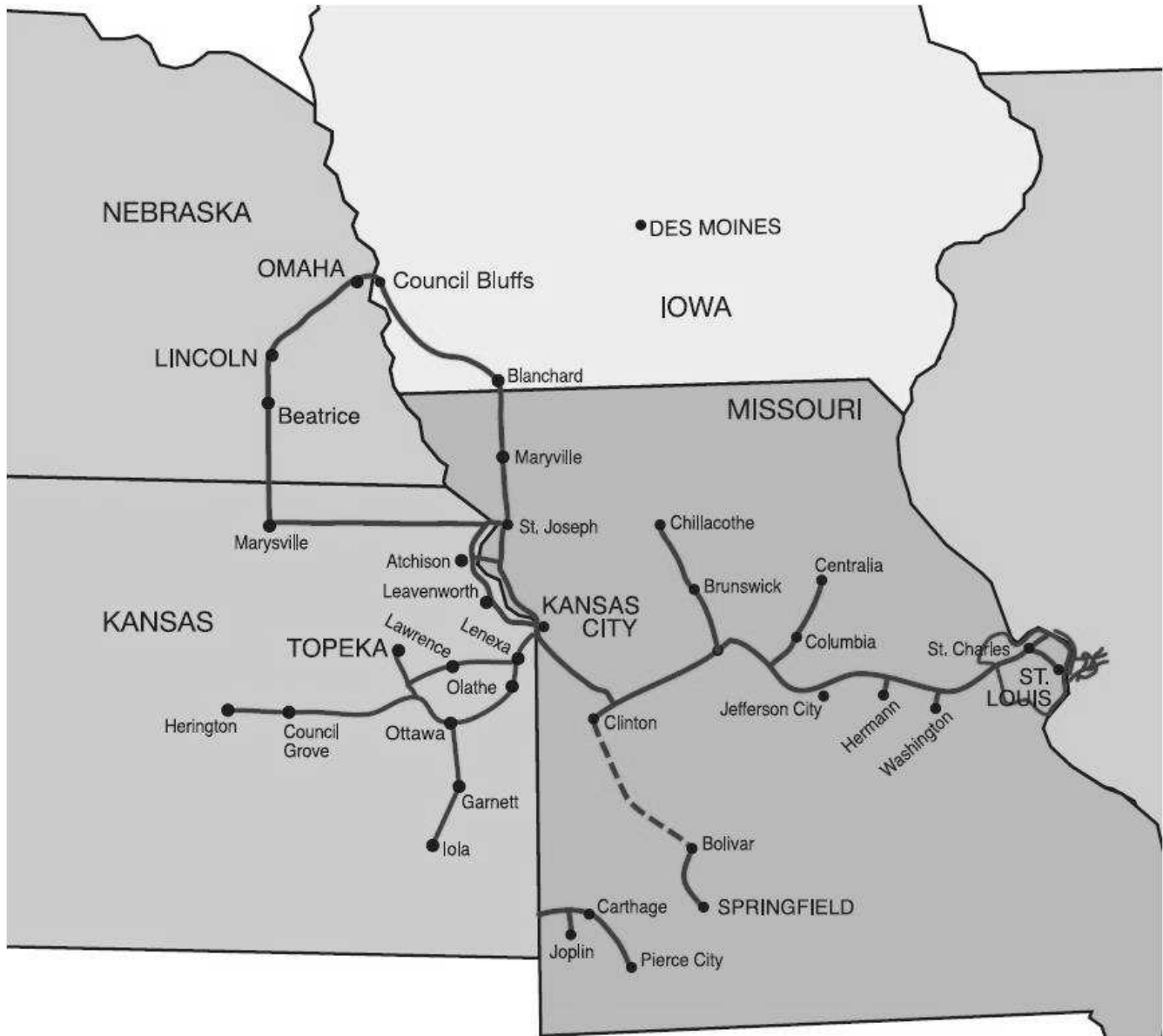
Late in 2006 DNR publicized its offer of agreement with AmerenUE that included provision for trail use of the Rock Island Corridor. DNR and Ameren have continued negotiations into 2007. Attorney General Jay Nixon filed a criminal suit against AmerenUE in December 2006 over the Taum Sauk affair.

### For More Information

To learn more, contact Missouri Bicycle Federation Executive Director Brent Hugh, 816-695-6736 or [director@mobikefed.org](mailto:director@mobikefed.org)



# Proposed 4 state trail



The Katy Trail Connection to Kansas City is the key to creating the proposed Quad-State Trail System--over 700 miles of interconnected trails, with Kansas City as the central point

For more information, see [MoBikeFed.org/quad-state](http://MoBikeFed.org/quad-state)